

Message Text

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11

ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00

EB-11 EPA-04 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11

AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01 OIC-04

DRC-01 /228 W

----- 092468

R 010950Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9992

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2937

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 036434

1. I WILL CERTAINLY MAKE SURE THAT THIS EMBASSY GIVES OUR LAW OF THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS ALL THE SUPPORT THEY NEED WITH THE INDIANS AS THE NEGOTIATIONS MOVE AHEAD. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT SHARES OUR VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS MEETING AND, EVEN THOUGH IT DOES NOT ALWAYS SHARE OUR POSITIONS, IS BOTH SERIOUS AND REASONABLE IN DISCUSSING THE ISSUES INVOLVED.

2. I WOULD ONLY ADD ONE CAUTION, AND I SUSPECT IT APPLIES TO A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL. THE COMPLEXITY OF THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS AND THE NUMBER OF INDIAN GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES INVOLVED HAVE RESULTED IN ONE MAN - THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S LEGAL ADVISOR, DR. S. P. JAGOTA -- BEING VIRTUALLY THE ONLY PERSON IN THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT WHO REALLY HAS A FULL GRASP OF THE WHOLE RANGE OF LOS ISSUES. WHEN HE IS WAY ATTENDING
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LOS MEETINGS, WE OFTEN MEET WITH CONFUSION, IGNORANCE AND

UNCERTAINTY IN THE INDIAN BUREAUCRACY. I HOPE THE DEPARTMENT
KEEPS THIS PROBLEM IN MIND IN ASSESSING WHAT WE MAY BE ABLE
TO DO.

3. IN THE CRUNCH, I'LL CERTAINLY BE PREPARED TO SEE THE
FOREIGN SECRETARY OR EVEN THE FOREIGN MINISTER IF THAT WILL
HELP BUT I HOPE THIS WILL BE ONLY ON REALLY FUNDAMENTAL AND
CRITICAL GENERAL POLICY ISSUES AND AT CRITICAL TIMES. IN TURN,
I HOPE THE DEPARTMENT WILL KEEP US INFORMED ON WHAT WE AND THE
INDIANS ARE DOING AND SAYING AT LOS MEETINGS SO I KNOW AT LEAST
AS MUCH HERE AS THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT DOES. FOR EXAMPLE, IT
WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO HAVE A RUNDOWN AS OF THIS MOMENT OF THE
KEY OUTSTANDING ISSUES UNRESOLVED AND WHERE WE AND THE INDIANS
STAND RELATIVE TO ONE ANOTHER ON THESE.
MOYNIHAN

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